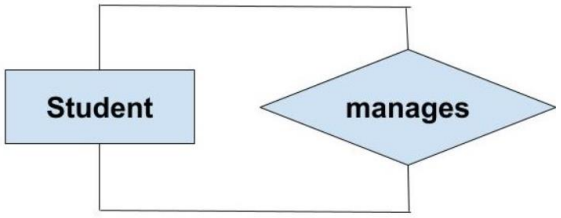
Degree of relationships

In DBMS, a degree of relationship represents the number of entity types that are associated with a relationship.

Unary (degree 1)

A unary relationship exists when both the participating entity type are the same. When such a relationship is present we say that the degree of relationship is 1.

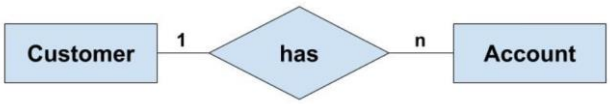
For example , Suppose in a classroom, we have many students who belong to a particular club-like basketball club and one of them is a club lead. This relationship using the E-R diagram as follows:



Unary Relationship
(degree 1)

Binary (degree 2)

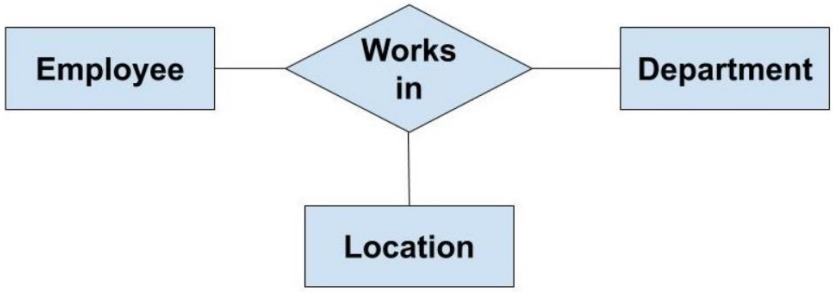
A binary relationship exists when exactly two entity type participates. When such a relationship is present we say that the degree is 2.



Binary Relationship
(degree 2)

Ternary(degree 3)

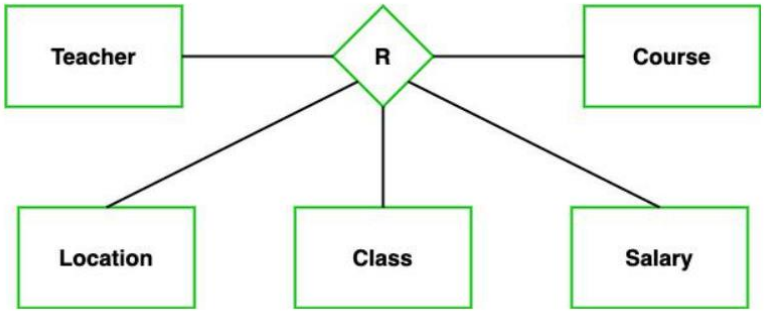
A ternary relationship exists when exactly three entity type participates. When such a relationship is present we say that the degree is 3.



Ternary Relationship (degree 3)

N-ary (n degree)

An N-ary relationship exists when ‘n’ number of entities are participating. So, any number of entities can participate in a relationship.



N-ary

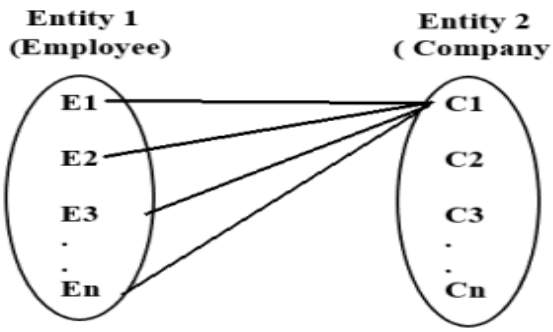
Cardinality of Relationships

Cardinality in DBMS refers to the Relationship which specifies **how many times a particular Entity occurs in the Relationship**.

For example, if only a company has many employees, this Relationship will be called a One-to-Many Relationship.

Number / types of cardinalities in RDBMS:

One-to-One, One-to-Many, Many-to-One and Many-to-Many



Cardinality (Multiple occurence of 'Employee' are related to a single occurence of 'Company')